



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Canyon Country District
82 East Dogwood
Moab, Utah 84532
<https://www.blm.gov/utah>

In Reply Refer To:
1614 (UT000)

March 9, 2018

Subject: Notification of public scoping meetings for Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) and Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM)

Dear Interested Party:

In light of your interest in Bears Ears and Grand Staircase National Monuments, I am providing you notification the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will host four public scoping meetings as part of the ongoing land use planning for Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) and Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM). Scoping efforts were initiated Jan. 16, 2018, for the BENM - Indian Creek and Shash Jáa units; the GSENM- Grand Staircase, Kaiparowits, and Escalante Canyon units; and federal lands previously included in the GSENM that are now excluded from its boundaries. In total, the BLM will produce six land use plans and two associated Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). The BLM and U.S. Forest Service will jointly prepare the land use plan and associated EIS for the Shash Jáa unit.

The BLM invites members of the public to attend meetings at the following dates and locations:

Bears Ears National Monument public scoping meetings:

Monday, Mar. 26
4:30pm – 8:00pm
San Juan High School
311 North 100 East, Blanding UT 84511

Tuesday, Mar. 27
4:30pm – 8:00pm
Bluff Community Center
3rd East and Mulberry Bluff Rd., Bluff UT 84512

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument public scoping meetings:

Wednesday, Mar. 28
4:30pm – 8:00pm
Kanab Middle School
690 South Cowboy Way, Kanab UT 84741

Thursday, Mar. 29
4:30pm – 8:00pm
Canyon Country Lodge
760 East Highway 12, Escalante UT 84726

Additional information about the planning effort for GSENM is located at: <https://goo.gl/EHvhbc> and for BENM at: <https://goo.gl/uLrEae>.

The public is encouraged to help identify any issues, management questions, or concerns that should be addressed in the planning processes. The comments will be used to help identify issues, frame alternatives that may be considered, and to better understand public concerns for managing these areas. The public scoping meetings provide the public an opportunity to talk to resource specialists and submit written comments in person. Comments must be received within 15 days of the last scheduled public meeting for the specific planning effort.

Comments on the BENM plan may also be submitted until Apr. 11 directly through the project ePlanning page at: <https://goo.gl/uLrEae>, mailed to P.O. Box 7 Monticello, UT 84535, or emailed to blm_ut_monticello_monuments@blm.gov.

Comments on the GSENM plan may also be submitted until Apr. 13 directly through the project ePlanning page at: <https://goo.gl/EHvhbc>, mailed to [669 S Hwy 89A Kanab, UT 84741](mailto:669_S_Hwy_89A_Kanab_UT_84741), or emailed to BLM_UT_CCD_monuments@blm.gov.

The two planning areas cover approximately 2.1 million acres of federal land in Garfield, Kane, and San Juan counties. The new planning efforts will replace the 2000 Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument Management Plan and replace portions of the 2008 Monticello Resource Management Plan.

Thank you for expressing your interest in our public lands, and we hope you will join us at one of the scoping meetings.

Sincerely,



Lance C. Porter
District Manager